

B O R O U G H O F S O U T H W O L D

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Arthur C. Gee, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

BOROUGH OF SOUTHWOLD
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1952.

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Southwold

Your Worship, Councillor Mrs. Laight and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1952.

Interesting points to note from the table of Vital Statistics are that a slight rise in birth rate is recorded, the rate having fallen steadily since 1947, and a fall in the death rate is again recorded, it having previously risen steadily from 1946 to 1950.

The "Causes of Death" have been shown in greater detail than hitherto. From this table it will be seen that disease of the circulatory system has been the main cause of death.

To judge from the few cases of infectious disease notified, 1952 would appear to have been a year singularly free from infectious disease. Compared with 1951, when 24 cases of measles and 59 cases of whooping cough were notified, this year has indeed been free from these infections.

I should, once again, like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your cooperation during the year, and to record my appreciation of the assistance given by your other Borough Officials.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Registrar-General's estimated population (mid-1952).....	2,419
Number of inhabited houses as at 31st December 1952	1,177
Rateable Value as at 31st December 1952	£23,666

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Totals</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
LIVE BIRTHS			
Legitimate	26	18	8
Illegitimate	2	2	-
	<u>28</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>8</u>
	<u>Southwold.</u>	<u>Comparative figure</u> <u>for England & Wales</u>	
BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1952	11.2		15.3
STILLBIRTHS	Nil		
DEATHS per 1,000 estimated population	12.4		11.3

Extracts from Vital Statistics cont.

DEATHS of infants under one year of age NIL
DEATHS from Puerperal causes NIL.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Tuberculosis	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm stomach	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm lung, bronchus	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm breast	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	2	5
Coronary disease angina	4	3	7
Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3
Other heart disease	2	6	8
Other circulatory disease	-	1	1
Pneumonia	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Other diseases	2	-	2
Suicide	1	1	2
	<u>17</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>37</u>

Comparative Table for the last Five Years

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>
Population	2,391	2,443	2,449	2,441	2,419
Births	37	33	23	21	28
Birth rate per 1,000	15.5	13.5	9.4	8.6	11.2
Deaths	39	48	49	45	37
Death rate per 1,000	16.3	19.6	20.1	18.4	12.4
Infant deaths	1	2	-	2	-
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	27.0	60.6	-	95.2	-

Infectious Diseases

During the year the following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified:

Pneumonia	8
Measles	4
Whooping Cough	3
Malaria	2
Jaundice	1

Tuberculosis

	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Pulm.</u>	<u>N. Pulm</u>	<u>Pulm.</u>	<u>N. Pulm.</u>	
Number on register at beginning of year	10	2	7	4	23
Number added to register during year	-	1	1	1	3
Number removed from register during yr.	2	-	1	-	3
Total on register at end of year	8	3	7	5	23

Food Poisoning

I am pleased to be able to report that once again the Borough was free from any cases of Food Poisoning throughout the year.

Details of the sanitary work carried out within the Borough are set out in the Sanitary Inspector's report which follows herewith.

ARTHUR C. GEE

Medical Officer of Health

BOROUGH OF SOUTHWOLD

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1952

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Southwold.

Your Worship, Councillor Mrs. Laight and Gentlemen.

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the sanitary conditions in the Borough for the year 1952.

WATER SUPPLY

A wholesome and sufficient supply of water for all requirements has been maintained throughout the year by the Southwold Waterworks Company Limited.

SEWERAGE

The two new pumping stations at South Green and North Road came into operation on 26th February and 8th April respectively, and are working satisfactorily.

The pumps operate by electricity and are automatic.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The collection of house refuse is carried out by contract and the Contractor has given every satisfaction.

During the year it became necessary to discontinue the use of the incinerator, owing to its poor condition, since when all refuse has been disposed of by controlled tipping.

The question of repairs to the incinerator has been discussed by your Council, but owing to the large expenditure involved, together with the delay in the delivery of the necessary parts, no further action was taken.

CONDEMNED MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

193 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of home killed meat were condemned during the year, of which 76 lbs. were affected by bone taint and the remainder by decomposition.

164 lbs. 6 ozs. of imported lamb livers affected by decomposition were also condemned.

The following tinned and other foods were also condemned:-

Luncheon meat	20 lbs. 12 ozs.
Pork Luncheon meat	7 lbs. 1 oz.
Stewed steak	1 lb.
Salmon	10 lbs. 2 ozs.
Full cream condensed milk	1 tin (1 $\frac{3}{4}$ pints)
Grapefruit	1 lb. 4 ozs.
Mandarin oranges	11 ozs.
Bartlett pears	1 lb. 13 ozs.
Grapes	3 lbs. 12 ozs.
Prunes	2 lbs. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ ozs.

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS AND BAKERIES

Periodic inspections have been made and the few minor defects noted have been remedied by the respective owners.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

All sanitary requirements under the Factory Act have been complied with and proper fire precautions maintained.

DAIRIES AND RETAIL PURVEYORS OF MILK

There are three retail purveyors of milk who trade in the town, one being the holder of a supplementary licence to sell tuberculin tested and pasteurised milk.

The two dairies in the town have been kept in a satisfactory condition.



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HOUSING

During the year the Council erected two two-bedroomed semi-detached houses. They also provided three of their existing houses with bathrooms by means of a small interior conversion.

Appropriate action has been taken in the case of various private dwellings where defects have been found.

C.R. DRIVER

Sanitary Inspector

September 1953

